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Agenda item 21 (b)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Afghanistan, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/30 J of 25 April 1997, 52/169 I of 16 December 1997, 53/1 K of 7 December 1998, 54/96 A of 8 December 1999, 55/45 of 27 November 2000 and 56/10 of 27 November 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Welcoming the further progress made by Tajikistan during the past year in consolidating peace, stability and a secure environment in the country,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the United Nations played a successful and important role in the peace process, expressing the belief that the Organization should continue to provide assistance to Tajikistan in post-conflict peace-building, and welcoming in this regard the efforts of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building,

Noting with regret that the humanitarian situation has not improved, owing to the severe economic situation and the effects of drought, and that significant humanitarian needs continue to exist throughout Tajikistan,

[1] A/57/136.

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Recognizing that the efforts of the Government and the assistance provided by the United Nations have been critical to covering immediate emergency needs and to mitigating the effects of the two-year drought on vulnerable households,

Recognizing also that the main humanitarian and rehabilitation objectives of the United Nations are to initiate a sustainable improvement in food security, improve access to primary health care and other basic social services, contribute to social rehabilitation, in particular through capacity-building within communities and the creation of employment opportunities, and combat drug trafficking and drug abuse,

Expressing concern that, despite the serious humanitarian situation in Tajikistan, the donor response to the 2002 consolidated appeals process has not yet reached its target, especially in such vital sectors as health, education and water sanitation in which needs are most crucial and for which urgent funding is needed,

Stressing that international funding for humanitarian operations is particularly important since such operations remain the principal means by which hundreds of thousands of Tajiks meet their basic needs,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Welcomes* the continued role of the United Nations in post-conflict peace-building in Tajikistan and the efforts of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building in this regard;

3. *Stresses* that the current phase of post-conflict peace-building requires continued international assistance for Tajikistan;

4. *Recognizes* that humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance remains crucial, not only to sustain life but also to promote development and prevent renewed conflict;

5. *Welcomes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute humanitarian problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for the post-conflict rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction of the country;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, the United Nations, the European Union, the World Bank and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan;

7. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue to provide assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs of Tajikistan through the consolidated appeals process and to offer support to Tajikistan for the post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction of its economy;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of further cooperation and assistance from the authorities in facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, welcomes in this regard the establishment of the Aid Coordination Unit in the Executive Office of the President of Tajikistan for the purpose of tracking international humanitarian assistance, and urges the authorities to continue to simplify and streamline without delay the relevant internal bureaucratic procedures and requirements for the delivery of humanitarian assistance;

9. *Warmly welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue the United Nations humanitarian programme in Tajikistan by issuing a consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan for 2003, taking into account current developments in the region, and urges Member States to fund fully and in timely manner programmes included in the appeal in order to meet the humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in Tajikistan while the country moves ahead with peace-building and economic development;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to re-evaluate all United Nations humanitarian assistance activities in Tajikistan with a view to preparing a common humanitarian strategy that would support the relief and recovery operations during the transitional period from relief to development, with a major focus on promoting self-reliance and sustainable development;

11. *Stresses* the need to ensure the security and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel, and of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the safety and security of their premises, equipment and supplies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-ninth session the question of the situation in Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".